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SNAP Sneaks a Peek

The Passage of Time and Tradition

Last week, I took a short cut through Williamson Road Public School. In the back schoolyard, I stood and looked at two entranceways. Above each entry, etched in stone, were BOYS and the other GIRLS. I marveled that while both my children attended "Willy" the affectionate, familiar, nick name of the school, built in 1913, I had never noticed the dedication of gender entrances.

Perhaps way back then, as a young mother, I did see the inscriptions but never gave any thought to the growth from one era to the next. The third floor of Williamson Road was added in 1919, most likely to accommodate the influx of children from the vastly developing neighbourhood. Surrounded by Beaufort Road, Glen Manor, Pine Crescent, Lee Avenue and many new and budding streets. Expansion of the school was most likely anticipated.

Standing in the sun, observing the entrances, brought back memories of my children standing in line at the front of the school. Boys and girls mixed in lines laughing and teasing each other, ready for another exciting day. Then I imagined my mother, born in 1933 and a graduate of Williamson, standing neatly dressed at the back entrance for girls with the separate accompanying line of boys all ready for their day at school.

We are so lucky, I think, to live in a community where so many people have walked in the same places. Family, a place where one or more started and their descendants carry on.

Almost one hundred years since the back, gender equated entrances opened their doors, the students of today's Williamson Road, stand together, all in a mixed bundle of male and female.

The simple stepping stones of life, left innocently through our past, should always be preserved, for they become a measurement of perception, evolution and education.

Hopefully one day, I will hold the hand of a grandchild, point out the quaintness of an era gone by, sit in the sunshine and appreciate a golden moment, many moments, embedded quietly above an entrance way.



Submitted by Jillinda Greene

Email jillinda@jillindagreene.com or contact her at 416-230-3849 to give her your ideas about unique landmarks in our communities and to see your Sneak Peeks in the pages of SNAP in upcoming issues.

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TORONTO EAST ROTARY CLUB'S ARTS AND CRAFTS SALE

The Toronto East Rotary Club hosted its 2nd annual Arts and Crafts Sale at Eastminster United Church on November 19. The spacious venue accommodated over 50 artists and crafters at the one-day exhibit. The diverse showcase had a little something for everybody, which also included live music and a raffle for attendees. This year, funds raised from the sale will go to community projects such as the Out of the Cold Program at Eastminster United Church.

Event by Lee Waddington
Event code: *pea6sy*



Karen and Kelly hand out flyers to guests at the arts and crafts show



Sara, Max and Carrie show off their new looks



Emma and Julie Walsh



Jordan and Megan



Artist, Tenya stands next to a collection of her stunning artwork